REMARKS

Claims 13-14 have been canceled. Claim 12 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 17, and claim 17 has been canceled. Dependent claims have been amended as needed to provide correct dependency.

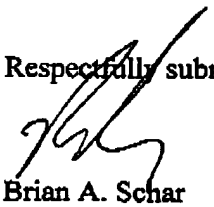
Claims 15-24 had been rejected as being dependent upon rejected base claim 12. Because claim 12 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 17, which would be allowable in accordance with the Office Action if rewritten in independent form, claim 12 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Claims 13-16 and 18-24 depend from claim 12, and are thus believed to be in condition for allowance as well under MPEP 608.01(n)(III).

Amendments to the claims have been made solely to facilitate issuance of this patent application, and do not constitute and cannot be construed as constituting acquiescence in the grounds of rejection of claims 12-14 in the Office Action. As one example, the Office Action continues to fundamentally misapprehend the plain meaning of the term "recess," and the construction of that term in the Office Action is expressly rejected. Assignee retains the right to present claims 12-14 in a continuation application, having expressly disagreed with the rationale presented in the Office Action for their rejection.

REQUEST FOR ALLOWANCE

Claims 1-4, 6, 8, 10 and 11 were allowed in the Office Action. Allowance of claims 12-16 and 18-24 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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